STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE PHONE (317) 232-3777 FAX (317) 232-8779



INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER NORTH 100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE N1058(B) INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

September 4, 2007

VIA U.S. MAIL

RE: County Assessor and Auditor Data Compliance

Dear President and Members of the Dubois County Board of Commissioners,

You recently received a letter dated August 23, 2007 regarding Dubois's data compliance. While one of the datasets listed was determined to be non-compliant, a further review found it to be compliant. Attached please find a revised letter. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Please contact the Department at <u>data@dlgf.in.gov</u> with questions relating to data compliance and/or to submit any information on Dubois County's data compliance plan. Counties may check the status of each dataset by accessing the statewide data status spreadsheet, which is updated weekly, on the Department's website at http://www.in.gov/dlgf/rates/.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A.W. Musgrave

Commissioner

CC: General Assembly

County Auditor
County Assessor

Cheryl Awheng

County Council Members

IT Directors

Tax and Assessment Vendors

Local Taxing Units

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RE: County Assessor and Auditor Data Compliance

Dear President and Members of the Dubois County Board of Commissioners,

Thank you for your hard work over the last month in achieving compliance with the Department of Local Government Finance's ("Department") July 20, 2007, letter. I particularly want to thank Gail Gramelspacher, County Assessor and Martha A. Wehr, County Auditor for Dubois County's recent data submission to the Department in response to this letter. These officials should be commended on their hard work in achieving data compliance for the following top-priority datasets:

<u>DATA SET</u> <u>OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE</u> <u>ORIGINAL DUE DATE</u>

2006 Sales Disclosure Data County Assessor March 1, 2007

Because the datasets requested in the July 20, 2007, letter are now compliant, the Department will release Dubois County's 2007 budget order, if held, and continue processing the pending 2007 debt issues, such as construction projects and emergency loans. Also as a result of the county's timely submission, the Department will not withhold Dubois County's property tax replacement credit ("PTRC") at this time.

The importance of county compliance with the Department's data requests has never been more crucial. Governor Daniels and the Indiana General Assembly are conducting an in-depth analysis of the property tax system in our state. To continue this analysis, and as an important policy-making tool, obtaining full and accurate datasets from each county is crucial for the success of these efforts. The Department's July 20, 2007, letter requested the submission of the most recent datasets. The Department now requests that all counties comply with Indiana law and provide full and accurate datasets beginning with the 2002 payable 2003 year. For the on-going analysis to continue, Dubois County must submit the following datasets, which according to Department records are still noncompliant, by **October 15, 2007**:

<u>DATA SET</u> <u>OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE</u> <u>ORIGINAL DUE DATE</u>

Pay 2004 Personal Property Data

County Assessor

October 1, 2003

Because this data plays such a key role in policymaking, the Department will neither review nor approve any unit's 2008 budget or pending 2008 debt issues in Dubois County until compliance is achieved. Also, if the noncompliance continues into 2008, Dubois County may have its 2008 PTRC distributions withheld until all datasets are compliant.

Communication is essential to resolving any outstanding data compliance issues. We encourage you to update the Department on Dubois County's current status with regard to the requested datasets. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions that you may have regarding data compliance, including requesting that a state information-technology expert assist you in submitting the data. Please contact the Department at data@dlgf.in.gov with questions relating to data compliance and/or to submit any information on Dubois County's data compliance plan. Counties may check the status of each dataset by accessing the statewide data status spreadsheet, which is updated weekly, on the Department's website at http://www.in.gov/dlgf/rates/.

As a reminder, all data submissions should be directed to Diane Powers, Director, Fiscal and Management Analysis, Indiana Legislative Services Agency at dpowers@iga.in.gov. I appreciate your continued hard work in ensuring that Dubois County becomes compliant with all data submission statutes and regulations. Working together, we can provide a fair and equitable system for all Indiana taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A.W. Musgrave

Commissioner

CC: General Assembly

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